

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A direct heating pipe which directly heats a fluid during the passage of the fluid, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in a desired portion of the pipe to be heated, a second heated pipe which is connected to a first heated pipe is provided outside the first heated pipe.
2. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second heated pipe is provided along a full length of the desired portion of the direct heating pipe to be heated.
3. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second heated pipe is provided in both end portions of the desired portion of the direct heating pipe to be heated.
4. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second heated pipe is provided in one end portion of the desired portion of the direct heating pipe to be heated.
5. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an electrode portion is connected to the second heated pipe.
6. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an electrode portion is connected directly to the second heated pipe.
7. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that a change in gradient is provided in a wall thickness of the first heated pipe and/or the second heated pipe.

8. (currently amended) The direct heating pipe according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
9. (original) A method of heating a fluid passing through a pipe, wherein in a desired portion of the pipe to be heated, by use of a direct heating pipe which is constructed in such a manner that a second heated pipe connected to a first heated pipe is provided outside the first heated pipe, a fluid passing through the pipe is heated by connecting an electrode portion to the second heated pipe and heating the first heated pipe.
10. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claim 5, wherein a change in gradient is provided in a wall thickness of the first heated pipe and/or the second heated pipe.
11. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claim 10, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
12. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claim 2, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
13. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claim 3, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
14. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 4, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
15. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 5, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.
16. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 6, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.

17. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 7, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.

18. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 8, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.

19. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claim 4, wherein an electrode portion is connected to the second heated pipe.

20. (new) The direct heating pipe according to claims 19, wherein the direct heating pipe is a column or a heat pipe.